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DR. WITORSCH: Thank you, Dr. Gori.

(Slide) What I am going to try to cover in the limited time available are some of the non-neoplastic respiratory effects of environmental tobacco smoke exposure. So, it will be a little bit of a change of pace. Now, studies of the respiratory effects of non-neoplastic respiratory effects of ETS have been basically of two types. They have included epidemiologic studies of chronic or long-term exposure addressing either pulmonary function from the point of view of spirometry or respiratory symptoms or disease, and studies of this type have been done both in adults and in children.

There have, also, been experimental studies of acute exposure where individuals are exposed in exposure chambers to defined amounts of environmental tobacco smoke, and these studies have been done in normal subjects, as well as in asthmatic subjects. In the interests of time, I am going to limit my remarks during the presentation to the epidemiologic studies in adults, and we can certainly get into some of the other areas, if there is time during the discussion period.

Now, there have been through the end of 1989, 15 epidemiologic or epidemiologic-like studies of ETS exposure in adults that have looked at, as end points, either pulmonary function test parameters or respiratory symptoms or both (Slide) and as you can see, some of the studies have looked at both, and some have looked at one or the other.

You can, also, see, those of you who can read the slide, and I apologize for to those who cannot that these studies have been done really in a variety of geographic areas within the United States, in different parts, as well as in other countries throughout the world, so that there is a pretty fair distribution in terms of cultural and geographical factors.

Many of the studies have used spousal smoking as the index or surrogate of ETS exposure. Many others have used household smoking which, of course, in most cases or in many cases, at least, include spousal smoking as the index of ETS exposure, and only a few studies have looked at anything that involved occupational work exposure.

None of these studies published to date has looked at any other kind of index of ETS exposure, and none of them has addressed any of the biological markers that Dr. Haley spoke about earlier, and none of them has addressed any other kind of environmental marker, so that we are really talking about surrogate indices of ETS exposure for the most part involving spousal smoking or some household smoking that, also, includes spousal smoking, and I think that is important to keep in the studies in context (Slide) because reliance on spousal smoking or an index including spousal smoking as an index of ETS exposure subjects these studies, any epidemiologic study to certain problems, and these are similar, virtually the same problems that characterize the studies of lung cancer that were mentioned, and I will just briefly mention, and that includes exposure misclassification which for the most part represents or introduces a non-differential bias and smoking status misclassification which introduces a differential bias, and this differential bias in part relates to marital aggregation or concordance, namely the phenomenon that smokers tend to marry smokers and non-smokers tend to marry non-smokers, so that you are more likely to have misclassified smokers among the spouses of smokers than you are to have it among the spouses of non-smokers, and there are, also, some particular confounding variables that have been alluded to and addressed earlier that relate to life style, socioeconomic and other kinds of factors that married couples tend to have in common.

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Now, bias from misclassified ex-smokers as I mentioned is more likely (Slide) in studies relying on spousal smoking index, and this is a differential bias. It is particularly more likely where the classification is by current smoking status, that is where studies only address the subject's current smoking status. It is more likely that you will have a problem with ex-smokers, former smokers who are currently non-smokers who are misclassified or regarded as never smokers, and in the studies of non-neoplastic respiratory effects, in contrast to many of the studies of lung cancer, many more of the non-neoplastic studies have only looked at current smoking status.

That is important in the studies addressing respiratory function or pulmonary function because the effects of active smoking on pulmonary function include both reversible and irreversible effects, and while it is true that when indidividuals stop smoking their pulmonary function may improve, it doesn't all improve, and it doesn't completely improve, and when one looks at groups of individuals, large groups of individuals, one finds generally as a reasonable generalization that the pulmonary function of ex-smokers is somewhere intermediate between that of the pulmonary function of active smokers and that of the pulmonary function of never smokers, and that becomes important when looking at the data.

(Slide) Just to briefly mention, and this was really addressed to some extent in Dr. Rylander's talk and has been addressed in some of the comments that there are a number of variables that may affect respiratory function, that may affect respiratory health and that may be shared by married couples that could influence the results of epidemiologic studies, such things as alcohol consumption, transmissible infection, health habits and attitudes, life style and so on.

Of the studies that were done through the end of 1989, 12 of the studies (Slide) looked at pulmonary function as an end point, and they are listed here. These studies for the most part were studies relying on spousal smoking or household smoking as the index of ETS exposure.

Now, these studies looked at a variety of spirometric parameters as measures of pulmonary function, but basically they were either FEV1, the forced expiratory volume in 1 second or some variant thereof or some analogous parameter on the one hand or FEF2575, forced expiratory flow 2575, the rate of flow during the middle half of the forced vital capacity maneuver or some analogous parameter or variant thereof, and it is important to note the difference between those parameters.

The FEV1 is sort of a tried and true test that has been used for many years, is very useful, is very useful in field studies. It is reasonably reproducible. It correlates very well with pulmonary dysfunction and pulmonary disease. It has one problem. It is somewhat insensitive and will not pick up some degrees of dysfunction.

The FEF2575, on the other hand, is much more sensitive than the FEV1. In fact, unfortunately, it is too sensitive, and it is a test that has a wide inter-individual variability and a particularly wide intra-individual variability, with a very high coefficient of variation, and for that reason reductions in FEF2575 are difficult to interpret, and there is a lot of uncertainty about the clinical, physiological and pathological correlation of reductions, even abnormalities, let alone reductions within the normal range of that and related parameters, and while it has been suggested that FEF2575 may be an index of small airway disease, disease limited to the bronchioles, less than 2 to 3 millimeters in diameter, that is far from generally accepted and is, in fact, a matter of considerable controversy and uncertainty.

There are clearly individuals who have abnormal FEF2575 who have no demonstrable dysfunction otherwise or disease, and there are individuals who have normal FEF2575 who do have significant air flow obstruction, so that it is a difficult parameter to rely on.

Now, of the results of the 12 studies which are listed here, and there are two results that are not listed on the slide which I just want to point out. Just for orientation, the arrow, the horizontal arrow represents no change. ND refers to the test was not done and an arrow pointing downward refers to a reduction in that parameter.

(Slide) In addition to the data indicated here, the Kauffman et al study in 1983, while finding no overall abnormalities did report reductions in FEV1 and FEF2575 in a subgroup of their subjects, namely women over the age of 40 years, and the Salem et al study in 1984, while reporting no abnormalities or no reductions in the standard parameters studied did report a reduction in air velocity index and a prolongation in expiratory time, parameters that are of uncertain significance, but should be mentioned, at least for completeness.

If one includes the studies as positives studies or studies showing the change, overall of the 12 studies, in seven there was some reduction in a test or more of pulmonary function in individuals said to be exposed to ETS using the index of ETS exposure used compared to individuals said not to be exposed to ETS.

On the other hand, in five of the 12 studies there were nno significant differences. Those findings really don't permit any meaningful conclusion about the effects of ETS exposure on pulmonary function. I think there is too much variability, variation in the studies to allow one to reach any meaningful conclusion, just on the surface.

Furthermore, there are problems with those studies. We mentioned the problems of the index of ETS exposure, misclassification and confounding variables which really characterize all of the studies (Slide) both those purporting to show an effect, as well as those purporting to show no effect.

In many of the studies or some of the studies, at least, the differences noted were limited to FEF2575 and related parameters, and the significance of reductions in that parameter and related parameters is really uncertain.

Where differences were noted, in virtually all cases, they were small, generally in the range of 3 to 15 percent reductions and most of the reductions less than 5 percent, and all of the values were generally within the normal range.

Finally, there were internal inconsistencies in some, some implausible results like inverse dose response relationships, as well as questions about the methodology, design, instrumentation, about some of the studies that just adds to the difficulty and uncertainty with regard to reaching any conclusions.

(Slide) Eight studies looked at respiratory symptoms, and some of these eight studies are the same ones that looked at pulmonary function, and all of these studies relied on spousal or household smoking as an index of ETS exposure, and among these eight studies without reading all of this to you, four of them showed no increased incidence of symptoms associated with ETS exposure, while the other four reported some increase in respiratory symptoms associated with ETS

exposure, again, a variation that doesn't permit any conclusion, and the same kinds of problems (Slide) characterized those studies as characterized the studies of pulmonary function.

(Slide) So, what can we say about the studies of effects of ETS on respiratory function or respiratory disease or chronic ETS exposure in adults? To summarize the studies with pulmonary function, even liberally interpreting the data, 7 of 12 showed some decrement in PFT parameters, but 5 of 12 showed no decrement of PFT parameters.

Studies of respiratory symptoms or disease, 4 of 8 an increased frequence, 4 of 8 no increased frequency. I think in the context of all of the problems with the studies but even outside of that context these results are too variable to permit any conclusion of association and the answer, I think remains to be determined in this particular area.

Thank you.

## STUDIES OF THE RESPIRATORY EFFECTS OF ETS

#### EPDEMIOLOGIC STUDIES OF CHRONIC EXPOSURE

- PULMONARY FUNCTION (SPIROMETRY)
- RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS OR DISEASE

## EXPERIMENTAL STUDIES OF ACUTE EXPOSURE

- NORMAL SUBJECTS
- ASTHMATIC SUBJECTS

### SPOUSAL SMORING AS INDEX OF ETS EXPOSURE

#### SES - RELATED VARIABLES

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

TRANSMISSABLE INFECTIONS

EXPOSURE MISCLASSIFICATION

- NON-DIFFERENTIAL BIAS

INCOME

EDUCATION

HEATING & COORING

SMORING STATUS MISCLASSIFICATION

TRANSPORTATION

- DIFFERENTIAL BIAS

HOUSING/LIVING SPACE

LIFESTYLE

- MARITAL AGGREGATION

OCCUPATION

HEALTH HABITS/ATTITUDES

CONFOUNDING VARIABLES

- LIFESTYLE

ETHNICITY

DIET

### EIAS FROM MISCLASSIFIED EX-SMORERS

MORE LIKELY IN STUDIES RELYING ON SPOUSAL SMORING INDEX

DIFFERENTIAL BIAS

MORE LIRELY WHERE CLASSIFIED BY CURRENT SMOKING

SMORING EFFECTS BOTH REVERSIBLE AND IRREVERSIBLE

TABLE 1. EPIDEMIOLOGIC STUDIES OF ETS EXPOSURE IN ADULTS: PULMONARY FUNCTION AND RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS

Study	Source of Subjects	Index of ETS Exposure	Endpoints Measured
Schilling et al., 1977	3 U.S. Communities	Spousal smoking	PFT parameters Respiratory symptoms
Simecek, 1980	Czechoslovakia	Spousal smoking	Respiratory symptoms
White and Froeb, 1980	California	Exposure at work >20 yr	PFT parameters
Comstock et al., 1981	Maryland	Household smokers	PFT parameters Respiratory symptoms
Kauffmann et al., 1983	France	Household smokers	PFT parameters
Lebowitz, 1984	Arizona	Household smokers	PFT parameters Respiratory symptoms
Gillis et al., 1984	Scotland	Household smokers	Respiratory symptoms
Salem et al., 1984	Egypt	Home and work	PFT parameters
Kentner et al., 1984 and 1988	Germany	Current ETS exp.	PFT parameters
Brunekreef et al., 1985	Netherlands	>10 cig/d smoked in the home	PFT parameters
Hosein and Corey, 1986	3 U.S. communities	Household smokers	PFT parameters
Kalandidi et al., 1987	Greece	Spousal smoking	Diagnosis of COPD
Svendsen et al., 1987	18 U.S. cities	Spousal smoking	PFT parameters
Kauffman et al., 1989	France <sup>a</sup> 5 U.S. cities	Spousal smoking	PFT parameters Respiratory symptoms
Hole et al., 1989 <sup>b</sup>	Scotland	Household smokers	PFT parameters Respiratory symptoms

Same study population reported in Kauffman et al., 1983
Same study population reported in Gillis et al., 1984

## EPIDEMIOLOGIC STUDIES OF ETS AND PULMONARY FUNCTION IN ADULTS

Study	Source of Subjects	Index of ETS Exposure
Schilling et al., 1977	3 U.S. Communities	Spousal smoking
White and Froeb, 1980	California	Exposure at work >20 yr
Comstock et al., 1981	Maryland	Household smokers
Kauffmann et al., 1983	France	Household smokers
Lebowitz, 1984	Arizona	Household smokers
Salem et al., 1984	Egypt	Home and work
Kentner et al., 1984 and 1988	Germany	Current ETS exposure
Brunekreef et al., 1985	Netherlands	>10 cig/d smoked in the home
Hosein and Corey, 1986	3 U.S. communities	Household smokers
Svendsen et al., 1987	18 U.S. cities	Spousal smoking
Kauffman et al., 1989	France and U.S.	Spousal smoking
Hole et al., 1989	Scotland	Household smokers

## SPIROMETRIC PARAMETERS

FEV,

- REASONABLY REPRODUCIBLE
- SOMEWHAT INSENSITIVE
- CORRELATES RELIABLY WITH DYSFUNCTION/DISEASE

## FEF.,.,

- WIDE INTER-INDIVIDUAL VARIABILITY
- WIDE INTRA-INDIVIDUAL VARIABILITY
- UNCERTAIN CLIN/PHYSIOL/PATHOL CORRELATIONS

TABLE 2. EPIDEMIOLOGIC STUDIES OF ETS EXPOSURE AND PULMONARY FUNCTION IN ADULTS

_	Reported Change in Parameter				rameter
Study	FEV,	FVC	FEF <sub>25</sub> .,	PEF	MEF 75
Schilling et al., 1977	-	-	nd	nd	nd
White and Froeb, 1980	-	-	1	nd	nd
Comstock et al., 1981	-	-	nd	nd	nd
Kauffmann et al., 1983	-	-	-	nd	nd
Salem et al., 1984	-	nr	-	•	nd
Lebowitz, 1984	nd	nd	nd	•	nd
Kentner, 1984 and 1988	-	-	-	1	4
Brunekreef et al., 1985	•	-	nd	1	1
Hosein and Corey, 1986	-	nd	nd	nd	nd
Svendsen et al., 1987	1	nđ	nd	nd	nd
Kaufimann et al., 1989	-	•	nd	nd	nd
Hole et al., 1989	1	nd	nd	nd	nd

# EPIDEMIOLOGIC STUDIES-USING PFT PARAMETERS

## PROBLEMS

INDEX OF ETS EXPOSURE, MISCLASSIFICATION, CONFOUNDING VARIABLES

DIFFERENCES LIMITED TO FEF. ... AND RELATED PARAMETERS

SMALL DIFFERENCES, VALUES GENERALLY WITHIN NORMAL RANGE

INTERNALLY INCONSISTENT, IMPLAUSIBLE DATA

METHODOLOGY, STATISTICS, DESIGN AND INSTRUMENTATION

#### EPIDEMIOLOGIC STUDIES OF ETS AND RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS IN ADULTS

Study	Source of Subjects	Index of ETS Exposure
Schilling et al., 1977	3 U.S. Communities	Spousal smoking
Simecek, 1980	Czechoslovakia	Spousal smoking
Comstock et al., 1981	Maryland	Household smokers
Lebowitz, 1984	Arizona	Household smokers
Gillis et al., 1984	Scotland	Household smokers
Kalandidl et al., 1987	Greece	Spousal smoking
Kauffman et al., 1989	France and U.S.	Spousal smoking
Hole et al., 1989	Scotland	Household smokers

#### EPIDEMIOLOGIC STUDIES OF ETS EXPOSURE AND

#### RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS IN ADULTS

Study	Findings
Schilling et al., 1977	No association with cough, phlegm, wheeze
Simecek, 1980	Increased symptoms of bronchitis
Comstock et al., 1981	No association with cough, phiegm, wheeze
Lebowitz, 1984	No association with cough, rhinitis, wheeze, shortness of breath
Gillis et al., 1984	Increased prevalence of expectoration and hypersecretion in males, and dyspnea in males and females
Kalandidi et al., 1987	Increased risk of COPD
Kauffmann et	No association with cough or phlegm; in U.S. population, increased prevalence of wheezing; in French population, increased prevalence of dyspnea in women ≥40
Hole et al., 1989	No increased risk of expectoration, dyspnea or hypersecretion

## EPIDEMIOLOGIC STUDIES USING SYMPTOMS/DISEASE

### PROBLEMS

INDEX OF ETS EXPOSURE, MISCLASSIFICATION, CONFOUNDING VARIABLES

INCONSISTENCIES BETWEEN STUDIES

INCONSISTENCIES WITHIN STUDIES

QUESTIONS OF PLAUSIBILITY AND DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA

## EPIDEMIOLOGIC STUDIES OF RESPIRATORY

## EFFECTS OF CHRONIC ETS EXPOSURE

- SUMMARY/CONCLUSIONS -

## STUDIES OF PULMONARY FUNCTION

- 7 OF 12 : SOME DECREMENT IN PFT PARAMETER(S)

- 5 OF 12 : NO DECREMENT IN PFT PARAMETERS

## STUDIES OF RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS/DISEASE

- 4 OF 8 : INCREASED FREQUENCY

- 4 OF E : NO INCREASED FREQUENCY

RESULTS TOO VARIABLE TO PERMIT CONCLUSION OF

ASSOCIATION

DR. GORI: I have a question, Phil. The problem here of irritation, real or psychogenic, if you wish, what kind of an effect would that have on the respiratory function?

DR. WITORSCH: Irritation, of course, is an acute effect, and certainly a high enough concentration of ETS, environmental tobacco smoke is a potential mucous membrane irritant, and in high enough concentration can certainly lead to irritation.

Studies that have been done in asthmatics, for example, show that a small number of asthmatics may react to exposure to environmental tobacco smoke with an exacerbation of asthma, and various studies somewhere in the range of up to about 20 percent or to look at it the other way, 80 percent apparently don't react.

In some cases, where there are high concentrations of ETS, that is certainly an acute irritant effect. In other cases where the concentrations are not particularly high, that may represent a response to an odor because it is very difficult, as you know, to disguise or mask the odor of tobacco, and it has been well recognized that asthmatics may respond to odor by developing increased bronchospasm. The mechanism of that is unclear. It may represent psychogenic mechanisms or it may represent something else, and finally, we know that asthmatics will respond with increased airway resistance to psychogenic influences.

One can repeatedly induce asthma by suggestion. One can deal with asthma in some patients by hypnosis. One can tell a patient, and these studies have all been done, that this particular substance is something that is going to make you have bronchospasm, and aerosolize saline, and the person will develop bronchospasm.

One can then aerosolize the same thing and tell the patient that this is a bronchodilator, and they will promptly develop bronchodilatation, so that pschogenic factors certainly are important, and that is an area that again, we don't have any definitive answers.

DR. GORI: Dr. Shubik?

DR. SHUBIK: Dr. Witorsch, what kind of findings would you have with asymptomatic smokers using these procedures?

DR. WITORSCH: It depends on how long they have been smoking, and it depends on a number of factors. If you take young people, and from where I stand, that is people up into their thirties, even who have been smoking for 10 to 20 years, perhaps, you may find that a certain percentage of them who are totally asymptomatic, perhaps 20 percent of them may have reductions in midflow rates, FEF2575. Some of those individuals may have small airway disease. The majority of them probably don't. Some of those individuals, if they stop smoking, those changes will disappear. Others, if they stop smoking, those changes won't disappear. Some of them, if they continue to smoke, and some of this is anecdotal data, and some of it has actually been looked at. David Bates looked at a large series of individuals. Some of them, if they continue to smoke, their changes will worsen. Others, if they continue to smoke will not develop significant air-flow obstruction. I think what that tells us is that there are a number of variables that are operative in determining which individuals will develop chronic air-flow obstruction related to active smoking, and that probably includes genetic factors, perhaps dietary factors, perhaps other factors.

If you looked at active smokers overall, probably no more than about 15 percent of active smokers develop clinically significant air-flow obstruction or 85 percent of them develop nothing more significant in terms of chronic airway disease than so-called "catarrhal" bronchitis, cough and sputum production, without a significant air-flow obstruction, and that doesn't relate very well to pack years of smoking. So, there are clearly other factors, immunologic, genetic and so on that are involved.

DR. BERNARD: Bernard, Scientific Research Associates. One of the principles that I have always used, whether we are dealing with tobacco smoke or food or pharmaceuticals or what have you is the issue of relative risks.

I think one of the places that our society has gone wrong is that we are looking at every risk as though it has equal importance, pumping in lots of money into things which have relatively little bang for their buck. We would do better to deal up front with the more important risks in terms of priority setting.

From what I have seen here this morning, I am just underwhelmed by the data supporting the relationship between ETS and some effect, and even given the methodological problems of which there are many, one would expect, I think that if this were a significant problem that the data would be perhaps a little more clear-cut.

The conclusion that I come to, based upon what I see here is that whereas the society is moving towards enacting regulations which limit exposure to passive smoking in the workplace, it appears that the data would show that that is not where the risk is, if there is any, that the risk is really in the home, and perhaps what we need to do is start passing laws with regard to smoking in one's home.

DR. WITORSCH: I won't disagree with that comment. Maybe Dr. Gori, as Chairman, would like to say something.

DR. GORI: This is too hot an item. Any other questions for Dr. Witorsch?

Yes?

DR. HOOD: I was just wondering what the relative magnitudes of the effects are that are seen in active smokers that you just discussed versus the ones that have been found or claimed for the ETS-exposed people in the studies that were the main thrust of your talk.

DR. GORI: May I remind you to say your name?

DR. HOOD: Oh, Ron Hood, University of Alabama.

DR. WITORSCH: To say that it is orders of magnitude is probably understating it. I think that if you would look at the quantitative degree of air-flow obstruction, for example, which is an objective parameter that you could measure, you are talking about differences that are many thousands of times different. You are talking about in the case of active smoking where you have clinically significant air-flow obstruction resulting in symptoms and complications and values that are clearly in the abnormal range. When you are talking about the numbers found in ETS exposure where there are decrements, you are talking about numbers that A, stay within the normal range, B,

are on the average about 5 percent or less below what the theoretical normal is for that individual and are not associated with any chronic symptoms that are attributable to them.

DR. LEE: Peter Lee. I will ask you two questions. One, you quoted some studies which showed a decrease, other studies that didn't. Was there any difference between the studies that did and the studies that didn't in general? I mean were the ones that didn't sort of smaller or did some large well-conducted studies show no decrease?

Secondly, with regard to the last speaker, I felt the Calendidi study claimed to show frank COPD from ETS which seems totally contrary to all the rest of the literature, but I would like your thoughts on that one.

DR. WITORSCH: Let me comment on the Calendidi study first. The Calendidi study was reported in 1987, in Lancet as a letter to the editor, and they report something like 103 said to be never-smoking women living in Athens who did not have asthma, did not have any other respiratory risk factors, other than being married to a smoking spouse who were said to have, and I use the word intentionally, a chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, so-called "COPD" or for those who are not familiar with it, the chronic bronchitis emphysema syndrome.

There are several problems with that study. The first is that in the format of a letter to the editor, there is not enough data to really evaluate their diagnostic criteria and a number of other factors and unfortunately, I have seen, although I have been looking for it, no follow-up full study published in the literature with that data.

Secondly, it is extremely unique, so unique as to raise questions of plausibility for anyone to encounter 100 cases of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in a non-smoking population, even in a chest hospital in a 2-year period. It is so unique, and I say this from the point of view of being a pulmonary internist, it is so unique that one seriously has to raise questions about the diagnosis and/or whether in fact, the smoking status classification was accurate, and I think either or both of those could lead to it, but I don't think I have seen 100 cases of COPD in non-smokers in 20 years of practice to say nothing of 2 years and that is in the practice of pulmonary medicine. So, I think that there are serious questions about that.

As to the first question, there are no real differences between the studies. I mean some controlled a little better for confounding variables. Lebowitz, for example, in his studies in Arizona pays more attention to confounding variables even though Lebowitz has said that he thinks that we overemphasize confounding variables. He spends a lot of time on them. His results were negative. On the other hand, there are criticisms of his studies and the exposures of that population. I don't think there is any -- they are all equally good or equally bad. I think until we have at least a questionnaire that is verified with biomarkers, I think it is impractical to have the subjects verified with biomarkers, but it is practical to do a biomarker verification of a questionnaire and then use a questionnaire. Most of these studies did not use standardized, let alone verified questionnaires, and until we get that, we are not going to have a meaningful study.

DR. GORI: Thank you, Dr. Witorsch. It is getting more and more interesting. Our next speaker is Dr. Dale Sandler, trained formally at the Hopkins University and now associated with the branch of epidemiology at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.